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AFGHANISTAN

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FACT SHEET

Support to Sub-National Governance Structure (RC East/RC South)

OVERVIEW

The Support to Sub-National Governance Structure project provides training and support to 34 provincial councils to conduct oversight and contribute to the provincial development process. The project includes technical assistance on budget/fiscal responsibility, public opinion polling, town hall meetings, and development of media strategies in Regional Command East and Regional Command South.

CURRENT ACTIVITIES

- Strengthen the capacity of provincial councils to conduct more effective development planning
- Support provincial councils as they conduct oversight over provincial development projects and budgets
- Increase citizens' understanding of their role as constituents in a democratic system
- Develop advocacy skills to engage with local officials to provide input on service-delivery decisions
- Encourage civil-society groups to coalesce and engage in dialogue with local officials on issues of concern thereby serving as a check on local officials while increasing citizens' political involvement

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Conducted training sessions and workshops for provincial councils in the south and east in project management, office filing systems, report-writing skills, and monitoring and evaluation techniques
- Designed the "Ask Your Governor" media program in consultation with the Independent Directorate of Local Governance to enable citizens to communicate their needs and concerns directly to their governor (the media program will be implemented after the fall elections)
- Designed and conducted citizen satisfaction surveys, helping provincial governments further define the needs of their constituents, in 20 provinces
- Implemented town hall meetings to create a dialogue and understanding among diverse stakeholders throughout Afghanistan's southern and eastern provinces